

Goal #6 – Enhance Citizen Engagement

Obj. 1 – Enhance citizen engagement

Obj. 2 – Enhance City public safety communications systems and services

The City of Houston is committed to more actively engaging citizens in the delivery of services, and providing adequate visibility into taxpayers' IT investments.

To strengthen its citizen-centered approach to government, IT has begun to develop a strategy for citizen engagement. One component of this strategy is intended to increase public transparency about IT projects, particularly those that have high impact on citizens.

We will share this information through the Internet and/or social media, to help bring citizens closer to their government. We will also solicit citizen input regarding new technology that can provide for a better government, such as civic programming events and an open data portal.

Houston plans to follow the lead of several major US cities by coordinating an Open Data Initiative. Open Data will empower citizens, non-profits, private business, students and entrepreneurs to find innovative ways to use our data to benefit the society, fuel efficiencies and increase economic growth in Houston.

Open Data is more than just government transparency; it puts citizens in an active role of improving local government.



Upcoming improvements to public-facing portals include:

- A new release of the current information website that works on any device, which, given the address, can look up multiple current City components of that address, such as school district, council, key map, super neighborhood, trash pickup, etc.
- Partnering with all City departments to deliver accurate and real-time City data for citizens' apps.

